WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multicolor ink jet printing method which comprises :

moving a carriage relative to a recording medium in a main scanning direction and in a subscanning direction orthogonal to the main scanning direction,

printing each color with a different group of nozzle heads mounted on the carriage,

printing at least one color with a larger number of nozzle heads than the other colors, and

printing said at least one color with a larger printing resolution in the main scanning direction than the other colors.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one color is black and the other colors are yellow, magenta and cyan.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the colors yellow, magenta and cyan are printed in subsequent bi-directional passes of the carriage, a portion of the black image is printed in the same pass as cyan, and a remaining portion of the black image is printed in a subsequent pass.

4. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein black ink dots printed in the same pass as cyan ink dots are printed in the gaps between adjacent cyan ink dots.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the liquid ink used for printing said at least one color has a higher surface tension than the ink used for printing the other colors.

6. A multicolor ink jet printer comprising:

a carriage adapted to travel relative to a recording medium in a main scanning direction and a subscanning direction orthogonal to the main scanning direction, and

a plurality of groups of nozzle heads mounted on the carriage, wherein each of the groups are assigned to different colors and at least one of the groups comprises a larger number of nozzle heads than the other groups, wherein means are provided for implementing a color print mode in which the printing resolution in the main scanning direction is larger for the color printed with said one group than for the other colors.

7. The multicolor ink jet printer according to claim 6, wherein the nozzle heads for different colors are staggered in the subscanning direction.

8. The multicolor ink jet printer according to claim 7, wherein the nozzle heads are arranged in at least three straight lines that are perpendicular to the main scanning direction and overlap one another in the subscanning direction.

9. The multicolor ink jet printer according to claim 8, wherein the group which has the larger number of nozzle heads than the other groups comprises at least one nozzle head which is offset relative to all the other nozzle heads in the subscanning direction.

10. The multicolor ink jet printer according to claim 8, wherein the group which has the larger number of nozzle heads comprises at least one nozzle head which is aligned with a nozzle head of another group in the main scanning direction.

11. The multicolor ink jet printer according to claim 6, wherein each group comprises at least two nozzle heads which are staggered in the subscanning direction.

12. The multicolor ink jet printer according to claim 6, wherein each nozzle head is integrated in an ink cartridge and has a nozzle row offset from the center of the ink cartridge, when viewed in the direction in which the ink is jetted-out, and wherein the nozzle heads are mounted on the carriage in two different orientations, rotated relative to one another by 180°.

13. The multicolor ink jet printer according to claim 8, wherein the lines of nozzle heads are arranged such that not more than two nozzle heads are disposed at the same position in the main scanning direction.

14. A multicolor ink jet printer comprising:

a carriage adapted to travel relative to a recording medium in a main scanning direction and a subscanning direction orthogonal to the main scanning direction, and

a plurality of groups of nozzle heads mounted on the carriage, wherein each of the groups are assigned to different colors, wherein at least one group comprises at least three nozzle heads and each of the other groups comprises at least two nozzle heads, the nozzle heads of all the groups being staggered in at least three lines perpendicular to the main scanning direction, such that the lines mutually overlap in the subscanning direction.